

# Alexandria Gazette and Virginia Advertiser

## Alexandria Gazette

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JULY 6.

**THE TOWER OF BABEL**—The magnitude and grandeur of this Oriental capital of twenty-five centuries ago baffle all belief. Any account of them, even the most sombre, is like a fairy story or a tale of Arabian romance. It was fifteen miles square, and was entirely enclosed by walls 100 feet thick and 300 feet high. The walls were further mounted with 250 towers, 75 feet higher than themselves. There were 2,500 miles of street in the city. It was built on the marvellous hanging gardens. These were a kind of artificial garden, lifted into the air upon immense piles of masonry. It was a stupendous work, and was the result of gallantry.

King Nebuchadnezzar constructed them that his Queen, who came from a monotonous country, Louisiana, might have the delight of a mountain garden. There were trees here from fifty to seventy-five feet in height and four feet in diameter. The Tower of Babel was partly a temple and partly a museum. It was built of sun-dried bricks, and in eight enormous stories, each of a different color. That land of Shinar, between the Tigris and the Euphrates, is a rich alluvial plain, derived of store, which has compensated its inhabitants by making the soil a peculiar mixture of clay and sand, which, mixed with water and baked in the sun, produces a brick more durable than anything we are acquainted with. The bitumen, which flows out of the ground, forms a cement so solid that the bricks are held together as one immense mass. Hence the marvellous durability of the construction of these ancient ruins.

The summit of the tower was crowned with a shrine, and within it was a mighty image of the Chaldean Jove, forty feet high, and of 140 gold, was placed. The terrible denunciations of the wicked, omniscient and cruel city, which are contained in the Hebrew prophecies, have been strikingly and literally verified. Its palaces have become a dwelling-place for owls and so the voice of history speaks with a loud and startling emphasis to our generation, assuring us that the wrath of God rests upon the workers of iniquity, and that it will sooner or later surely overtake them.

### Opening and Closing of the Mails.

CLOSING.  
Washington, D. C., and Northeastern mails 8 a.m., 12 m., and 6 & 8 p.m.;  
Western mails 4:30 and 8:15 p.m.;  
Southern mails, via Richmond, Va., 10:30 a.m., and 4:30 & 8:15 p.m.

South and Southwestern mails, via Lynchburg, Virginia, way and through mails, 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.;  
Manassas Division 7:00 a.m.;  
Alexandria to Mount Hill Va., 8:00 a.m. OPENING.

Northern and Western mails, via Washington, D. C., 8:30 a.m., 12 m., and 6:00 p.m.;  
Southern mails, via Richmond, Va., 5:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

Southwestern mails via Lynchburg, Virginia, (through Manassas) including way mails on Midland Railroad, 8:30 a.m.

Manassas Division 7:30 p.m. for look book only.  
Round Hill to Alexandria, Va., 8:30 p.m.;  
Office Hours—Office opens at 8:30 a.m., and closes at 7:00 p.m.;  
Sunday Hours—Office opens at 8:45 a.m., and closes at 9:30 a.m.

### OFFICIAL NOTICES.

**MAYOR'S OFFICE.**—Alexandria, Va., July 2, 1861.  
I quote from the speech of the Hon. Mr. Justice S. S. Foote, in the ben. of all concerned, "The license so granted as aforesaid shall be payable on or before the 10th day of July 1861."

"Any person who shall engage in or exercise any business, employment or profession without a license where one is required, shall pay a fine of not less than three nor more than five dollars per day."

I construe this to mean that all licenses must be paid by July 10th, and any person who has not paid at that time will be subject to the fine of not less than three nor more than five dollars per day. I hope all who have not done so, will call and pay the income assessed by the Commissioner of the Revenue and thus save us from being forced to discharge so unpleasing a duty as the law requires.

J. T. BECKHAM,  
May 2, 1861  
Mayor.

**NOTICE TO CITY TAX PAYERS.**  
Collector's Office,  
Room 4, Market Building,  
Alexandria, Va., June 1861.

Notice is hereby given that the tax bills due for 1861 are now in our hands for collection, and the attention of all parties interested is respectfully called to the following extract from the Revenue Bill of that year:

"Upon all bills paid in full by the 1st day of July 1860, the Collector of Taxes shall allow a discount of 10 per cent, on all bills paid by the 1st day of August 1861, and shall allow a discount of 5 per cent, and all bills paid on the 23rd day of December, 1861, there shall be assessed and collected a penalty of five per cent upon the amount of said bills, and on all bills remaining unpaid on the 1st day of June, 1862, damages at the rate of 12 per centum per annum shall be paid."

Office hours during the discount period from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

JOHN T. HILL, Collector N. D.  
S. E. FIELD, Collector S. Dis.  
June 25, 1861

**WATFIELD & HALL,**  
**DRUGGISTS**  
COR. PRINCE & FAIRFAX STS.

Prescriptions a specialty. English, French, German and Domestic Toilet Soaps, Genuine German and Florid Water, Genuine Lubin's Extract, Spices, Fish, Brusels, and Comb; best English Toilet, Bathing, full assortment of Patent Medicines, Cosm. Ointments, Dorn, Birch, French, German and Domestic Cologne, Hair Wines, Sponges, Flax Strips, etc. Especially given to prescriptions.

July 2, 1861

**SAFETY OIL**—We have secured the genuine oil of THE BUSH & DENSLAW PLAIN SAFETY OIL, which we guarantee above 150° fire-test, and perfectly safe. The oil burns with steady, bright flame, and is a very desirable light to read by. For sale wholesale and retail by

HARMON & SMITH.

**CURES FOR WHOOPING COUGH.**

BOGERT'S VEGETABLE SYRUP will give immediate relief and effect a positive cure of this troublesome complaint. For sale by

WATFIELD & HALL.

**WASH BOARDS, WASH BOARDS!!**—The Creo, Angle, and Cable Cable, something entirely new and the best wash board ever invented. Call and examine. For sale wholesale and retail by

MELKAN & UHLER, 78 King street.

**WE HAVE TO CLOSE OUT A LARGE**

**LOT OF DESIRABLE LAWNS AND OTHER THINGS** at manufacturers' prices. Completely and neatly packed, in boxes, bags, and barrels, and carried as easily as an umbrella. Call and examine at

MELKAN & UHLER,  
78 King street.

**CHOICE SMALL HAMS—5 pieces of the CELEBRATED SPRINGFIELD'S C. HAMS, equal to any brand sold, received to day and for sale by**

J. C. MILBURN.

**NEW STYLES SILK MITTS BLACK** and white. Brilliant Little Gloves, black and white. Dotted Muslin Tie, Embroidered Muslin Tie, etc., etc., just received.

HARMON & SMITH.

**HAY, COHN, OATS, AND MILL FEED** for Horses and delivered free to any part of the city by

C. S. TAYLOR JR.

**FERGUSON'S TORCHON LACKS** and THISTL THIMMINGS BY the yard or piece at low prices.

FERGUSON'S linens

38 King street.

**COFFEE AND TEAS—12 half chests** Gunpowder, Celing and Japan Teas; 10 socks Rio, Leguana and Java Coffees, and 50 pounds Arbuckle's celebrated Roasted Coffees.

7:00 A.M.—HARMON & SMITH.

**JUST RECEIVED** to-day a fresh lot of SUMMIT BEDDING and DEEP ROCK MINERAL

WATERS. For sale on draught or by the barrel at

LUNT'S

12 DOZEN BROOMS made of selected my 12 straw received to-day by

J. C. MILBURN.

11 A.M.—Canned and Uncanned Sugar

for sale at

J. C. MILBURN.

11 A.M.—ROASTED COFFEE

for sale at

J. C. MILBURN.

11 A.M.—CANNED AND UNCANNNED SUGAR

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